

CRUX number 3

1987

\$4



FOCUS ON NEW MEXICO

THEY DON'T CALL IT
THE LAND OF ENCHANTMENT
FOR NOTHING

CRUX NUMBER 4 WILL APPEAR IN 1988 AND WILL FEATURE CONTINUING COVERAGE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO PLUS OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION.

STIGMATA NUMBER 24 - SINCE ANIMAL MUTILATIONS ARE (1) REAL AND (2) WON'T GO AWAY, THE PROJECT STIGMA REPORT ON THE CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THE MUTILATION PHENOMENON WILL APPEAR IN LATE 1987 (\$3).

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FOCUS ON NEW MEXICO

Diverse are the images of the state of New Mexico: the physicist in a Los Alamos laboratory cooking up a superconductive ceramic in the wee hours of the morning; the Navajo shepherd propelling his flock across a highway; the low riders cruising Espanola on Saturday night; the dishes of the Very Large Array radio telescope spread across the Plains of San Agustin; the crisp precision of the cadets at the "West Point of the West" in Roswell; the rancher on a long cattle drive across the eastern plains; a night at the Santa Fe Opera House or a day in the depths of Carlsbad Caverns; and that most electrifying of historic images - 5:30 AM, July 16, 1945 at "Trinity Site", 42 miles southeast of Socorro. We have (however arbitrarily) chosen to focus on quite a different collection of images of New Mexico: the consistent and persistent interlacing with New Mexican life of the paranormal, the unexplained and, especially, the UFO phenomenon.

New Mexico has often been described by the many great artists and photographers who have been drawn there as a place where the light is "different"; where vision seems more acute and colors seem more vibrant somehow (away from the smog of Albuquerque, anyway). The proliferation of spiritual seekers seems to indicate that some clearer inward vision is more accessible there, as well.

Beyond the mesmerizing blue skies and surrealistic sunsets, New Mexico is "different" in more easily acknowledged and recognizable ways. It features an intriguing cultural mix: Hispanic, Anglo and Indian (3 major groups: Pueblos, Navajos and Apaches - plus the "genizaros" - Indians separated from their tribes and living as Hispanics) - plus a more recent influx of spiritually-oriented groups: Sikhs, Moslems, Buddhists and lesser-known or more obscure factions. The population of New Mexico includes a greater percentage of minorities than any other state.

Economically, the state presents unique contrasts, with high technology superimposed on a 19th century agrarian economy. New Mexico, it is said, "has never been through the Industrial Revolution". The major manufacturing elements in the state are diverse indeed - from nuclear weaponry and "peaceful" nuclear applications to the accomplished Indian crafts of jewelry and pottery making and weaving. Dominating the eco-tech tableau in New Mexico is the scientific and weapons research - some at small private and ostensibly-private high-tech firms - but most at the cutting-edge federal laboratories: Los Alamos and Sandia. Los Alamos, home of the "Manhattan Project" in the 1940's, has since been involved in some of the most sensitive RDT&E (research, development, test and evaluation) programs. Los Alamos National Laboratory today is a government-owned, contractor-operated (GOCO) facility - owned by the Department of Energy and run by the University of California. Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque is another of the nation's most vital "GOCO" installations - a Department of Energy facility operated by AT&T. Eighty-five percent of

Sandia's work is defense-related, and all of the country's RDT&E on the non-nuclear components of nuclear weapons is conducted at Sandia.

The history of New Mexico mirrors its modern diversity. Prehistoric cultures such as Folsom, Clovis and Sandia may have inhabited the state as long as 12,000 years ago. Not only is there a curious lack of skeletal remains of these groups, there is also a notable lack of linkage between these earlier groups and the later Indians - the Mogollon, the Athapascans (tribes from the Northwest and Alaska thought to be the ancestors of the Navajos and Apaches) - and the ever-mysterious Anasazi. The Spanish began arriving in the 16th century; the others would follow later - including the Anglos and the extraterrestrials(?). Or, perhaps the latter were there all along(?).

Bio-geographically, there are seven life zones in the world and six are represented in New Mexico (only the Tropical is missing). Though often envisioned by the outsider as desert (and there is some terrifically bleak country), there is also an abundance of heavily-timbered, snowy high-mountain terrain, and then there are the vast grasslands of the eastern plains. New Mexico is rich in natural resources: oil, coal, uranium, natural gas, great "Mexican" food - chile is the state's top cash crop.

The military is an integral part of the New Mexico scene and has been for decades. There is the Army's massive White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) and the equally-expansive Fort Bliss military Reservation. And the Air Force bases: Holloman, Cannon and Kirtland. The latter, adjoining Albuquerque, is one of the most strategic and sensitive facilities in the nation. A vital nuclear weapons storage area is located at Kirtland. The base is also the home of the Air Force Space Technology Center's Air Force Weapons Laboratory as well as the Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility. Much of the nation's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI or "Star Wars") research is carried out at - or contracted out from - Kirtland Air Force Base. Kirtland AFB will figure prominently in the pages to follow. It is expected that a major SDI laser facility will be constructed in New Mexico, most likely near Orogrande, in the Fort Bliss area of southern New Mexico.

New Mexico's heavy military research component has been suggested as a reason for the apparent interest in the state on the part of what are claimed to be and what are supposed to be extraterrestrial ufonauts. Easy to shrug off such a notion? Perhaps not.

We will begin our examination of strange occurrences in New Mexico with a less-than-exhaustive catalog of UFO reports - since that admittedly comprises the majority of our information on paranormal happenings in the state. As we begin our survey of this and other semi-fanciful New Mexico notions, we throw out our "hook": a comment made by a New Mexico newspaper reporter to California screenwriter/researcher Tracy Torme: "You know, they don't call this the Land of Enchantment for nothing".

ALIENS & ADOBE?

A classified ad in the TAOS NEWS in March 1979 read: "For the truth about UFO's and a good Bread(sic) recipe, Call 758-8252, ask for Jim Baker". Indeed, UFOs could almost be said to be a part of everyday life in New Mexico, especially some parts of the state. We've been told that's true in the northeastern section, for instance...they're seen so often the populace pretty much takes them for granted. Our contention is that there is a special relationship between the UFO Phenomenon (whatever that is) and the state of New Mexico. We don't know if we will be able to fully illustrate for the reader why we believe this is so; but at least we know we're not alone. Historically, anyway. Ruppelt in his THE REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS wrote that (as of the end of 1952), "...northern New Mexico produced more reports than any other area in the U.S." Hynek in his HYNEK UFO REPORT remarked that one of the surprises in his data was the large number of UFO reports in New Mexico despite its relatively low population. So, though the state's per capita percentage of reports may stand out, we must admit that other states certainly disgorge a great number of UFO events, and that some of these are as crucial and important, if not more so, than anything that has occurred in New Mexico - we can only reiterate our position that a major key to the solution of the UFO mystery may have existed - and may still exist in New Mexico. If most of these accounts are reasonably accurate, one has to wonder about the prowess of these supposedly superior beings who exhibit such a predilection for crashing and crash-landing on the soils of New Mexico. Were these "crashes" deliberate? Or did some aspect of our relatively primitive technology prove detrimental to their navigational or propulsion systems, and did they adapt and correct for this, explaining the apparent waning of the "crashes" since the 1940's and 1950's? What follows is an incomplete catalog of New Mexico UFO events, landings and otherwise. We hope that our selection will at least be reasonably representative. References are listed following the catalog, with their corresponding number in parentheses after each entry.

1880

March 26 - Galisteo Junction, SE of Santa Fe, now the town of Lamy, and not to be confused with present-day Galisteo, also near Lamy. Several witnesses reported a fish-shaped, balloon-like craft, apparently propelled by a fanlike apparatus, and containing 8 to 10 jabbering, shouting (in an unknown language) occupants. The craft was seen to ascend and disappear to the east. An earthenware cup, a flower and a slip of "exceedingly fine silk-like paper" were dropped from the craft. The paper contained "characters resembling those on Japanese tea chests". The next day a "collector of curiosities" passed through and purchased the "droppings" for an unrefusable amount of money. (1)

1883

October 6 - A newspaper reported from Socorro that "A light, almost as

bright as a comet and larger than a star, appeared over Socorro Park last night about 7 o'clock p.m. and wavered there about ten minutes. None who saw it could explain it". (2)

1932, 1941 and 1975

Good Friday morning (each year). Various members of the same family witnessed the same or a similar formation of 5 bright disc-shaped objects. The sightings occurred southeast of Wagon Mound, in NE New Mexico. (3)

1936

September 3 - A ball lightning-type discharge ("luminous darts") was observed and photographed by scientists. (4)

1947

June 29 - Two scientists and a third witness driving on Highway 17 near White Sands "V-2 firing grounds" reported seeing "a large disc or sphere moving horizontally at a high speed and an estimated altitude of 10,000 feet. It was of uniform shape and had no protruding surfaces...The object was in sight for about 60 seconds before it disappeared to the northeast. The three observers agreed on the details of the sighting except that one thought he had seen vapor trails". (5)

June 29 - An object supposedly fell near Cliff in SW New Mexico. Army Air Force searchers found no trace of it, but did report detecting a curious odor in the air. (6)

June 30 - Residents of an Albuquerque neighborhood watched 13 silver discs maneuver "dramatically" across the sky. (6)

June 30 - Tucumcari, Quay County. Witness watched low-flying yellowish "flying saucer" appear to go down outside Tucumcari. (6)

July 1 - Albuquerque. Chamber of Commerce executive observed bluish disc "zigzagging" in sky NW of Albuquerque. (6)

July 2 - Seen from Roswell, looking northwest. The onset of "The Roswell Incident". In this brief survey we will not provide details of one of the better-known incidents in ufology. See the essential (though now dated, perhaps) book on the subject (6). We will present additional remarks on this case elsewhere in this and upcoming issues - in view of the new and potentially vital 1987 "revelations" regarding the July 1947 Roswell case.

1948

April 5 - near Holloman Air Force Base. Three "trained balloon observers" saw "round, indistinct object". "It was very high and fast, and appeared to execute violent maneuvers at high speed" - object observed 30 seconds. (5)

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1948 (Continued)

July 17 - San Acacia, NM - Report from Kirtland AFB describes sighting of seven objects flying in formation varying from "J" to "L" to circle. Flashes observed from objects. Altitude est. at 20,000 ft., speed 1500 mph.(5)

THE "GREEN FIREBALLS" AND "PROJECT TWINKLE"

A most interesting episode in UFO history. Some elements of the story, only a brief part of which we can summarize here, include:

1. Some disc-shaped and other type UFOs were reported, though most of the accounts featured variously-colored, usually bright green, fireballs.
2. There was no question whether the phenomena existed; there were too many witnesses, often of the very highest credibility.
3. The "Project Twinkle era" can somewhat arbitrarily be said to have extended from the onset of green fireball reports in November 1948 until the project's final report in November 1951 (actually, the Air Force did not designate the probe as "Project Twinkle" until the latter half of this period).
4. Virtually - though not exclusively - all of the green fireball reports were restricted to New Mexico. Many of the phenomena were observed over some of the most sensitive military installations in the country (a harbinger of things to come: the overflights over military bases in 1975) - including Los Alamos, Sandia Base and Kirtland AFB. Probably all military-intelligence components present in the state eventually were involved one way or another - either as witnesses or investigators.
5. Closely associated with the fireball investigation - and a fireball witness himself - was Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, Director of the Institute of Meteoritics at the University of New Mexico. Documents obtained via the Freedom of Information Act reveal that LaPaz doubted the fireballs were a natural phenomenon. He felt they might be indicative of a secret US military project; but, if they weren't, they were to be "a matter of serious concern".
6. LaPaz indicated that the "distinct vivid" bright green color of the fireballs was rarely, if ever, observed in "conventional" meteors.
7. Many of the green fireballs were seen in and around Vaughn, NM. Investigating the reports, the Air Force noted that "a correlation was determined between visual reports and radio disturbance". A Project Twinkle instrumental/observation post was later set up in the Vaughn area. Although many written accounts suggest the sightings then ceased in the Vaughn area & popped up elsewhere in New Mexico - an FBI summary of August 23, 1950 reports that the personnel operating under Air Force contract "sighted 8 to 10 objects of aerial phenomena".
8. According to the same August 1950 FBI document, "approximately 150 observations of aerial phenomena" were recorded "in the vicinity of installations in New Mexico" (this included green fireballs, discs & other UFOs, and what appeared to be conventional meteors). The observations were reported on 53 nights between Dec. 5, 1948 and March 5, 1951.

9. A January 31, 1949 FBI document reported: "Some nine scientific reasons are stated to exist which indicated that the phenomena observed are not due to meteorites. The only conclusions reached thus far are that they are either hitherto unobserved natural phenomena or that they are man-made. No scientific experiments are known to exist in this country which could give rise to such phenomena."

There appears to be no foundation for rumors that Project Twinkle continued for several years, perhaps with a different or broader focus.

Readers are encouraged to seek out the referenced sources for more detailed accounts of this intriguing period. As we resume our chronology, we will include below a few reports from the "Twinkle" era (7,8,9,10,11,12)

1948 (Continued)

December 13 - 15 miles SE of Las Vegas, NM. Dr. Lincoln LaPaz & two investigators observed a green fireball (while in the field investigating an earlier report). (7)

1949

date unknown - Albuquerque, near airport. A UFO approached at 500 ft., dropped to 200 ft. & exploded in a "red spray" - 3 more "red spray" UFOs appeared on 3 more nights. The Air Force supposedly confirmed the sightings, offering no opinions or conclusions. (13)

January 30 - shortly before 6:00 PM, MST. Thousands of witnesses in eastern New Mexico & western Texas (as far east as Fort Worth) saw a "great fireball leisurely traversing the sky" along a horizontal trajectory approximately 143 miles long. Reported as green, but other colors, as well. Extensive but unsuccessful efforts to locate fallen fragments were carried out by Lincoln LaPaz with military assistance. Despite some seemingly non-meteoritic aspects of the reports, LaPaz felt that this fireball was "the only one of the anomalous luminous objects under investigation which gives any indication of having been a meteorite fall". (7)

February 16 - Grants-Gallup area of NW New Mexico. White, green & orange object hung in sky, then fell. Unconfirmed report of 2 Navajos described an explosion following the descent of the object. (7)

April 24 - near Arrey, west of White Sands Proving Ground. Four Naval personnel & civilian (General Mills) engineer Charles B. Moore, while engaged in Navy balloon-launching experiment, observed rapidly moving "ellipsoid" object visually and with theodolite during daylight. The report received considerable public exposure in TRUE Magazine's March 1950 issue, in an article written by the research team leader, Navy Commander R.B. McLaughlin. He also wrote of another White Sands-area sighting that he believed he had seen a "flying saucer" from "another planet" operated by "animate, intelligent beings". Donald Keyhoe felt that McLaughlin had been allowed to publicize the story as part of an "elaborate Program" to prepare the public for a "dramatic disclosure". (7,14, 11)

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1949 (Continued)

June 10 - White Sands Proving Ground - Two "white balls" pursued and passed a high-trajectory guided missile just launched. (15)

July 24 - 8:26 PM - Socorro. A fireball was reported over the area. A New Mexico School of Mines team conducted air sampling tests in search for possible airborne meteoric debris. Tests were deemed "negative or at least inconclusive". (7)

August 20 - Las Cruces - From the yard of his home, noted astronomer Clyde Tombaugh (discoverer of the planet Pluto), his wife and mother-in-law observed a group of 6 to 8 "windowlike" rectangles of light move noiselessly across the sky. In 1975, Tombaugh recalled that he had been working at White Sands at the time and he knew that "we didn't have anything" that could maneuver as the phenomenon he observed. Strangely enough (or perhaps not), the final Air Force report on Project Twinkle (Nov. 1951) claimed that Tombaugh "never observed an unexplainable aerial object despite his continuous and extensive observations of the sky". Another noted astronomer, the arch-skeptic, UFO-debunking Dr. Donald H. Menzel of Harvard University (now claimed to have been a member of the Majestic 12 or "MJ12" Special Studies Group which dealt with the real UFO reality beginning in the 1940's), while en route from Holloman AFB to Alamogordo, NM on May 12, 1949, observed star-like objects which increased in brilliance and disappeared. Menzel found the sighting "puzzling". (7, 16, 17)

1950

February 7 - Vaughn area. A bright green fireball was seen emanating from the area around Vaughn. Whatever details there were, Lincoln LaPaz termed it an "extraordinary incident" which served as confirmation to him that the fireball phenomenon represented "U.S. guided missiles undergoing tests in the neighborhoods of the sensitive installations they are designed to defend". (7)

March 16-17-18 - Farmington. Over three days, hundreds of Farmington residents reported observing daylight cavortings of up to 100 and even "hundreds" disc-shaped craft. Despite the apparently extraordinary circumstances, no records of the sightings appear in Blue Book files. Several witnesses re-interviewed in 1982 recalled the incidents vividly. (18,19)

March 24, mid-afternoon - Sandia Base, near Albuquerque. Four Army personnel observed very bright object (described variously as moon-or softball-sized, and round or square-shaped) moving and arching upward over Sandia Mountains. One witness described 4 objects. (20)

April 27 - Holloman AFB/White Sands area. On this date and in late May, UFOs were filmed during missile tests. The films showed there was "something" in the sky. On April 27, a missile had been launched & tracked as it fell to earth. As technicians unloaded their cameras, an object streaked across the sky; only 1 camera captured it. (11, 21)

1950 (Continued)

May 24 - Holloman AFB/White Sands area. Personnel of Land-Air, Inc. (a company which the Air Force had contracted to provide & man observation posts for Project Twinkle) filmed 4 objects about 30 ft. in diameter moving at a high rate of speed, according to an analysis of the films by the Holloman Mathematical Data Reduction Unit. (21)

August, date unknown - Holloman AFB. Multiple witnesses using "optical aids" saw small airplane-like craft which would drop in altitude & turn simultaneously, greatly impressing the observers. (22)

1951

(no date) - "big radar station" west of Las Cruces. A friend assigned there told investigator Ray Stanford that, in 1951, they tracked UFOs "too often for comfort", including one that produced an especially good "solid blip" on the screen, and that moved at 14,000 mph. (23)

January 12 - Los Alamos. Ten Los Alamos employees reported very bright, tear-shaped object with small tail, descended slowly. (7)

April 1 - Los Alamos. Los Alamos employee reported bright, oblong object moving slowly both horizontally and vertically. (7)

June 7 - Los Alamos. Los Alamos employee reported a pointed cylinder object of "cloth-like" construction which fell into canyon. Search party could find nothing. (7)

June 8 - Los Alamos. A Los Alamos employee reported a "large reddish dot, dull appearance which turned bright green". (7)

July 9 - Corona, NM (18 miles SW). USAF Sgt. Jack Meadows, stationed at experimental radar site, saw glowing red ball of light, size of full moon. Meadows and civilian security guard watched the light descend slowly below trees, with an afterglow for another 10 seconds. (7, 24)

July 14 - White Sands Proving Grounds. UFO detected on radar, seen by multiple witnesses and captured on 200 ft. of 35mm film. (25)

August (no date) - Highway 10, 5 miles north of Golden. Miner Sam Jones watched motionless object in sky - described as cigar-shaped with stainless steel-like color. Witness Jones watched for 10 to 20 minutes before resuming his journey. (26)

August 25 - Albuquerque. A Sandia employee and his wife observed a huge "flying wing" the size of a B-36. The wings were sharply swept back with blue lights on the edges. This was the night of the first sighting of the "Lubbock Lights" in Texas. A photo taken by Carl Hart, Jr. of Lubbock on August 31 showed a "V-shaped" configuration of lights. (11, 27)

September 14 - Los Alamos. A "saucer" was observed "maneuvering" over the Los Alamos area. (25)

December 13 - Tucumcari. A witness claimed to have seen a streaking fire-

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ball land close to a 750,000-gallon water tank, then move toward the tank and collide with it. The tank collapsed, killing four people and demolishing 20 buildings. (22)

1952

January (no date) - Santa Fe airport. "Strange illuminated object" was seen. Airport lights were turned on, and the object immediately climbed steeply then hung motionless for 25 minutes. (15)

January 16 - Artesia. Two members of a balloon project & 4 others witnessed 2 dull-white objects near the balloon they were observing. The objects appeared to circle the balloon before departing to the NE. Two sets of observers reported the incident separately. (28,29)

January (no date) - Taos area. Three green fireballs in 3 separate sightings: One motionless in sky over highway to Santa Fe; one swaying "to and fro" over mountains above Taos; and one shot across the sky over the mountains. (15)

1952 (date unknown) - Radar specialist with secret clearance was shown 16mm film documenting recovery of a crashed craft and dead occupants. The retrieval operation was supposedly conducted in New Mexico in 1952. There are many other rumors of crashed and crash-landed UFOs in New Mexico, as we shall see. One example is that of a supposed crash in the Roswell area in 1949. It is rumored that six occupants were recovered & and one was alive. The alien was kept alive for several years at a New Mexico facility. Until it died of unspecified or unknown causes in the early 1950's, the alien, according to the tale, provided the military with a great deal of information, not only about its origin and purpose for visiting earth, but a sweeping picture of the history of the earth and mankind from the alien point of view. (30, 31)

April (date unknown) - Newman, NM. A physician watched a bright yellow disc make a 90-degree turn, then accelerate straight up. (22)

June 28 - Kirtland AFB. Two observers watched 2 silver discs flying south. They speeded up "instantly" and climbed almost vertically, with one object veering off to the east. (28)

July 29 - Walker AFB, Roswell. Four weather observers tracked a UFO (with difficulty, due to speed involved) with a theodolite. (32)

July 29 - Los Alamos ("Omega Site"). A white, egg-shaped UFO left at high speed when Air Force jets from Kirtland AFB went up to intercept it. Later that date, at 9:30 PM, an Air Force reserve colonel reported a yellow round or oval object over Los Alamos. (25, 32)

August 24, 10:15 PM - over Hermanas, NM. An Air Force jet pilot saw 2 round silver objects flying abreast, at "terrific" speed. (25)

1953

September 26 - near Carlsbad. A shape-changing (round, growing one tail, then two tails) object was spotted at 25,000 ft. by civil defense observers. (33)

October 25; Sunday, near 9:30 PM - near Santa Fe. Sixteen-year-old Jim Milligan, driving through a park, saw an object fly by his windshield and land by the road. The object looked like 2 boat hulls together, 10 ft. by 5 ft. As Milligan approached it, the "it" took off. (15)

1953 (no date) - near White Sands Proving Grounds. The story has it that a "saucer" was found on the ground with its door open and four dead occupants nearby. (34)

1954

April 12 - NW of Roswell, possibly in Lincoln County (and possibly near the site of the July 1947 "Roswell Incident". An informant reported participating in the retrieval of a crashed UFO and the bodies of its occupants, while the informant was stationed at Walker AFB for "special training" in desert search and rescue operations. The account, if factual, is fascinating in many respects and is more detailed than most. (34)

May 7 - White Sands area. Two women found 30 strange "tracks" on a sand dune near Kilburne Hole, described as an extinct volcano. Each track consisted of 4 concentric circles, with a dot in the center & two straight lines from the edge to the center. There were pod-like impressions and a suggestion of finger or claw marks. The Army was said to be investigating. In the same book, almost 200 pages later, author Wilkins has what appears to be the same report, with the addition of the witnesses' names - Mrs. Weiss & Mrs. Sanders - plus the claim that they viewed multi-colored lights in the distance - the problem is, Wilkins gives the date as February 5, 1954 (oh well, that is not the only mistake in his book). (33)

May 18; 7:00 PM - Cannon Air Force Base, near Clovis. A lens-shaped object reportedly landed on railroad tracks near the main gate of the base. It was seen by two civilian workers. No connection known, but Major General David W. Hutchinson (Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations of Tactical Air Command at Langley AFB, Virginia) arrived at Cannon AFB on the morning of the 18th and departed late that afternoon. (35, 28)

August 6 - Santa Fe. A brilliant white ball in the sky was visible for 15 minutes. It left a luminous trail in an upward trajectory; supposedly interfered with some TV and radio broadcasts, but not "ham" radios. (33)

September 17 - A "blinding green" fireball as large as a full moon was seen by thousands across Colorado and northern New Mexico - including football fans in a stadium in Santa Fe. Night turned "into day" in Denver. (11)

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1956

September (no date); 8:00 AM - 12 miles west of Holloman AFB. A domed, disc-shaped object landed less than 50 yards from US Highway 70, as car engines died. Object remained for 10 minutes before taking off. It was seen by two colonels, two sergeants and dozens of Holloman employees. Air Force intelligence and the CIA arrived to swear all to secrecy. (36)

1957

July 24 - west of the Organ Mts., S. New Mexico. The family of White Sands missile flight safety chief Nathan Wagner watched a disc flying east over the Organ Mountains. (22)

July 25 or 26 (approx.) - East Grand Plains, NM. In 2 sightings, 2 teenagers and a farmer reported "three white round objects". The 2 boys reported the objects changed direction, not by turning but by reversing direction. (37)

October 23 - Clovis-Portales area. UFO landing reported (no details). (35)

October 24 - 15 miles south of Cannon AFB. A UFO, viewed by multiple witnesses - reportedly landed during daylight hours, leaving unspecified landing traces behind. (35)

November 1 or 2 - Clovis. A radio station owner reported seeing a streaking fireball on Saturday night, Nov. 1. On Sunday, sightings and landings of egg-shaped craft were reported just across the state line in the area of Levelland, Texas. (38)

November 4 - Orogrande, NM. A Holloman AFB employee and others were "halted" on US Highway 54 as a huge pearl-colored object passed over. James Stokes' car radio began to fade; his engine died, as object made a "dive" across the highway and moved off toward the Organ Mountains. (22, 39)

November 4, 10:45 PM - Kirtland AFB. An object appearing through binoculars like "an auto standing on end" was watched by radar & by visual observers as it maneuvered over Kirtland AFB. It hovered momentarily over the NE corner of "Area D" or the "Drumhead Area", a restricted area about 3000 ft. ENE of the air base tower. This important sighting is covered extensively in the references (Hynek & McDonald). (28, 29)

1957 (date unknown) - White Sands Proving Grounds. A disc-shaped craft was observed by Army military police as it landed briefly. A short time later, other military policemen saw another (or was it the same?) UFO hovering at an altitude of 50 ft. The craft was described as being 200+ ft. long. (13)

November 3 - White Sands Proving Grounds. Uncertain whether this might be the same incident as above. A egg-shaped object was reported hovering low over an old A-bomb bunker near the Trinity Site. (23)

1958

April 14 - Albuquerque. Twelve to eighteen "gold discs" seen in the sky by Air Force personnel. The objects flew in a "V" formation with "irregular positioned satellites". (27)

Summer of 1958 - Holloman AFB. A mechanic at work on a F-104 jet watched a disc-shaped object hover over the tarmac. Another witness arrived in time to see the craft retract ball-like landing gear and take off. Personnel in a control tower saw it, too. Someone from the Air Force showed the witnesses a book containing UFO photos in over 300 pages. The witnesses reportedly had to sign a secrecy document. The mechanic drew the object; see photo section of the Blums' book. (36)

Late November - Between Datil & Pie Town & north of US Hwy. 60. Three men driving on a ranch road watched two teardrop-shaped objects connected by metallic elevator shaft-like beams. The sighting, on a clear, cold day, lasted over ten minutes. The objects turned north & disappeared in the distance over Mt. Taylor. (26)

1959

February 25 - South of Hobbs on NM Highway 18. Jim Dobbs, Jr. heard "strange radio signals" in his car as he watched an egg-shaped object (glowing like "radium on a watch") pass off to the east. (22)

April 13 - "over New Mexico". A retired Navy pilot in his own plane noticed his compasses spinning as 3 gray objects approached & circled his aircraft. As the objects left, the compasses returned to normal. The Air Force directed the pilot to Kirtland AFB for interrogation. An Air Force major warned the witness that he might develop radiation sickness and he was told to keep the incident a secret. (13)

1961

January 17, 6:17 PM - near Cimarron. A former Holloman AFB weather officer & his companions saw at least 2 (perhaps 3) "V" formations of 6-to-8 lights. A bright light, which they thought to be Mars, went out as a second group of amber-to-orange lights appeared, flew out of sight, and apparently returned before disappearing again. (22)

October 23 (night) - Between Datil & Pie Town. A vacationing couple was "pursued" along US Highway 60 by a brilliant ball of light which broke into 4 smaller lights. (22)

1962

(date unknown) - near Holloman Air Force Base. A UFO was tracked across 2 states before crashing. The craft and 2 42-inch-tall beings were removed

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and the corpses, it is said, were studied at a major university hospital. Writer Stringfield reports that an astronaut knows of the case. Ufologist Robert Barry claims that the crash occurred about 90 miles south of Alamogordo. (30, 40)

1963

September 11 - between Albuquerque & Grants. At least 4 separate sightings were reported of what most described as a large green light and 2 smaller lights. One witness reported he was awakened by the brilliance of the large light as it passed over. (41)

1964

Preceding 4-24-64; White Sands/Holloman AFB area. Writers, the Lorenzens, reported that unpublicized, unexplained, "terrifying" incidents were witnessed by military personnel during an unspecified time preceding the April 24 Zamora incident at Socorro. (22)

April 24 - Albuquerque. Approximately 25 minutes before the Zamora sighting at Socorro, an oval or egg-shaped UFO was reported over Albuquerque, flying south (in the direction of Socorro). (42)

April 24 (Friday), between 5:50-6:00 PM - Socorro. The experience of Socorro policeman Lonnie Zamora - one of the pre-eminent cases in ufology; much discussed, dissected and alive-and-throbbing well over 2 decades later. So much has been written on the case (including an entire book(42)) that we will not have the space nor inclination to go into it in great detail here.

Why "alive and throbbing"? Isn't this merely an old, though semi-revered chestnut by now? After all these years, rumors and pertinent and peripheral informational nuggets still occasionally surface. One always-pursued aspect of the case has been the search for additional witnesses - like the 2 Iowans, Larry Kratzer and Paul Kies, who, while driving into Socorro from the west, apparently saw the object seen by Zamora as it left the landing site. There seemed to be a time discrepancy between the Iowans' and Zamora's accounts. The former initially believed they saw their object at around 4:00 PM, almost two hours earlier than the well-established time of Zamora's sighting. Is it possible that what they saw represented a separate object and/or landing on or near the same site? Iowa investigator Ralph DeGraw, who has analyzed the Kratzer/Kies accounts (43), feels they were simply mistaken about the time (& he makes a plausible case for this) and that they most likely did see the craft Zamora saw when he saw it.

An even more glaring descriptive discontinuity was the Iowans' insistence that they both saw black smoke which seemed to be emitted from the object. Zamora never claimed to see black smoke, only dust kicked up by the craft (a conviction he repeated to DeGraw in the late 1970's).

More recently, Zamora remarked to investigator Christian P. Lambright that a Socorro woman well-known to him witnessed part of the event (she apparently saw the craft itself at one point, plus Zamora's three efforts to propel his police cruiser up the hill and himself into the UFO Percipient Hall of Fame). After later telling Zamora she could at least partially confirm his tale, she swore him to secrecy regarding her involvement.

There is an even more intriguing recent development. The red insignia seen on the craft by Zamora has always been surrounded by controversy and uncertainty (see the appendix in Stanford's book(42)). Publicly, a generally-accepted model has been settled on. However, allegations have surfaced from multiple sources (including at least one in the US military/intelligence community) regarding the existence of a second, different insignia observed by Zamora on the same craft. Furthermore, the story is that Zamora was instructed to keep secret this second insignia (sometimes termed the "trilateral insignia", because of the inclusion of 3 parallel horizontal lines, which appear in various configurations in different versions).

True? If so, why keep the second insignia a secret? To use it as a point of confirmation if someone else sees & reports such an insignia? Who instructed Zamora to keep it quiet? First on the scene was State Police Sgt. Sam Chavez, followed by other law officers - to whom, it is reported(42), Zamora showed the insignia he sketched as soon as the craft departed. Later that evening, however, Zamora was interrogated in a closed-door session by FBI agent J. Arthur Byrnes, Jr. and Army Capt. Richard T. Holder. It was Holder who supposedly convinced Zamora to keep the insignia a secret to avoid contaminating potential future investigations. But later, Zamora began to show ufologists and the press the now-accepted version of the insignia. Stanford (42) says the law officers first on the scene described Zamora's sketch as featuring an inverted "V" overlaid by three parallel horizontal lines. So - Did Zamora, continuing to adhere to Holder's desires, promote and distribute a false or altered insignia? Recently, according to investigator Chris Lambright, Zamora picked as "his" insignia an entirely different one (from a selection of several, supplied by Lambright). It is conceivable after so many years that Zamora now confuses the "real" insignia with the "cover" version? Could his memory then have failed him as he attempted to point out yet another "cover" insignia? On the other hand, how likely is that that Zamora would forget the actual image-in-red from that particularly personally-galvanizing experience of his? Is he continuing to perpetrate a cover-up? Or has his memory of the event honestly dimmed? Was there one insignia or two? Was it suggested to Zamora that he completely forget about one insignia while later providing a distorted version of the other one? Is the military/intelligence community (or factions thereof) emitting disinformation for whatever reason as it promotes rumors of a "second", "trilateral" insignia? Did Erich von Daniken ever ask this many questions in one paragraph? (42, 43, 94)

April 26 (Sunday); 1:00 AM - La Madera, in the Carson National Forest in eastern Rio Arriba County. Orlando Gallegos, an employee of Standard Oil in Santa Fe, spending the weekend at his family home in La Madera, left his father's house around 1:00 AM in an attempt to calm some horses that were making noise. He looked toward the nearby Rio Vallecitos and saw a butane-tank-shaped object which seemed to be resting on the ground by the river. The object was about 100 yards away, the length of a telephone pole and 12 to 14 feet in height. A blue-white flame surrounded much of the object, apparently emitting from portholes, but there was no sound. After about a minute, the flames went out and the object sat silently. Gallegos went into the house to tell his father, who merely laughed at him. Gallegos did not venture back outside until daylight. The object was gone but a smoldering area remained by the river. Later that Sunday evening, Gallegos reported the incident to State Police Officer Marvin Romero in Espanola. Officer Albert Vega, stationed at Ojo Caliente, about 7 miles from La Madera, was dispatched to the scene. State Police Captain Martin E. Vigil (who would later become chief of the State Police) wrote that Vega found the ground still smoldering at around 7:30 PM on the 26th, and the ground was "badly scorched", and that....

...Officer Vega advised that he had observed four depressions on the ground, one of which was quite clear, the others having been obliterated due to windy weather conditions. Officer Vega stated that this depression was approximately eight by twelve inches in size, about three or four inches deep, and sort of "v" shaped at the bottom. There were also numerous oval shaped or "cat-paw-like" markings around the scorched area. These were approximately three and one-half inches in diameter.

Captain Vigil himself later examined the site. In 1970 he was interviewed by the late Dr. James E. McDonald. According to McDonald, Vigil told him that....

...some of the woody vegetation (he thought it was sage, probably) was still smoking and the ground was warm. He emphasized that there appeared to be unmistakable evidence of "terrific heat" over an area several tens of feet across on the side of the river bed. He specifically mentioned melted beer bottles on the ground. I asked him if there was any evidence of fused sand, and he said he did not think so. His comment was, "There was no doubt in my mind that there had to be tremendous heat there"....The depressions appeared to Vigil to be pressure effects, and not dug out with a shovel. He thought they were only a few inches deep.

After Vigil returned to his office, he phoned Sgt. Sam Chavez at Socorro, whom he knew (Chavez had been the first to join Lonnie Zamora at the scene of his experience that previous Friday). McDonald reported that Vigil....

...asked Chavez to describe what he'd seen on the ground at the Socorro site. Vigil said that Chavez' description was almost exactly the same as what he had found on investigating the La Madera site.

Vigil's investigation indicated that Gallegos was highly thought-of and his veracity did not seem to be in question. Vigil put to rest any question over whether the US military might have become involved or shown an interest in the La Madera investigation. As Vigil was leaving La Madera after his first visit to the site, he encountered a car of Air Force investigators on their way to the scene, according to his testimony to McDonald in 1970. In 1964, Vigil had stated that a "Major Connors of Kirtland Air Force Base" interviewed Orlando Gallegos and had visited the landing site. In 1970, Gallegos told UFO investigators Don and Alice Richmond that a team from either Los Alamos or Las Cruces had arrived at the site and they took numerous samples of soil, rocks and vegetation. (44,45)

April 28 (Tuesday; 1:30 AM) - Edgewood (in S. Santa Fe County). Twenty-year old Don Adams reported to State Police that he drove under a glowing or fluorescent green object, which was about 25 feet long and 100 feet in the air. Adams' car stalled beneath the object; he got out and fired 6 shots at the object, reloaded and fired six more, with no apparent effect. The newspaper article detailing the case stated that, since Friday the 24th, authorities had received calls about "similar objects" from near Caballo Reservoir south of Truth or Consequences, north to an area near Espanola. "All the reports are similar in that they describe oval or egg-shaped objects with size estimates ranging from the size of a car to about 30 feet or longer". (46)

April 28 (Tuesday) - Albuquerque. Ten-year-old Sharon Stull and playmates saw an egg-shaped object which burned Sharon with "ray emanations". The girl supposedly matured remarkably in the month following the incident. (47)

"A few days after the Socorro incident"(April?) - A B-57 pilot flying NE of Socorro on a simulated bombing mission reported a landed or landing craft shaped and marked like the object seen by Lonnie Zamora. (48)

April 30 (Thursday, 10:22-10:24 AM) - US Highway 60, 16 m. east of Datil. Ray Stanford, who would later author a book on the Socorro incident, was driving home to Arizona after conducting his initial investigation at Socorro, 48 miles to the east. Stanford watched a cigar-shaped or ellipsoidal object move across the sky from south to north. The longitudinal axis of the object appeared tilted 10°-12° toward the direction of motion. Stanford took photos which showed the object, but the photos were not as detailed as hoped. (42)

May 15 and 22 - White Sands Missile Range. On both days, UFOs were tracked on radar. On the 15th, 2 objects were seen visually - described as "brown and football-shaped". The objects reportedly were apparently "transponding" in response to two frequencies reserved for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recognition signals. (48)

June 2 (4:00 PM) - Hobbs. Young Charles Keith Davis was burned as a tan, top-like object hovered over his head. (22)

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1966

June 23 - Placitas. Apollo program flight engineer Julian Sandoval, along with a pilot and a former Air Force navigator, observed a 300-ft.-long UFO "suspended" in the air. It then departed at "incredible speed". (13,47)

1967

February 10 (4:30 AM) - 25 miles north of Tularosa. A witness saw a dome-topped, round-bottomed, metallic object hovering beside Highway 54. (22)

March - near Las Cruces. A New Mexico State University student, photographing landforms, took a widely-published photo of a round or disc-shaped object, "on edge", in the air between walls of rock. (49)

March 2 (around noon) - US Highway 70, Apache Summit, near White Sands Missile Range. A driver on the highway observed "silvery specks" passing overhead. Two Holloman AFB radars picked up "intermittent targets". (29)

April (1st week) - Socorro. A yo-yo-shaped object with a rainbow-colored belt around its middle was watched by 2 witnesses as it flew slowly from Strawberry Peak and hovered over the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. The object directed a bright beam of light to the ground near the school. One witness reportedly predicted the object's arrival. (26)

May 26 (10:15 PM) - Albuquerque. Engine and lights on a car died as a darting white light "paced" the car. (48)

October 9 (10:00 AM) - near Silver City (2 witnesses in 2 different locations). One witness saw a blue-green torpedo-like craft skimming low along the ground, lower than utility wires. The other witness saw a "welding torch-blue" object with a center ring of bright fire surrounded by a blue outer ring. It flew low and to within 10 ft. of the witness. (50)

1970

November 15 through December 21 - Santa Fe area. At least 6 UFO sightings were reported during this period. Most were described as "intensely bright lights", moving at high rates of speed and sometimes hovering. (51)

December - Alamogordo. At least 4 sightings were reported in the last half of December, including 3 on December 24th. In one of those incidents, three teenagers photographed the object they saw. Another man in the area also photographed an object/light. The photos which, as usual, were less than definitive, were published in the local newspaper. (52)

1971

January 1 - Dog Canyon, near Alamogordo. A wobbling object "as bright as the moon" disgorged orange objects over the Sacramento Mountains. (53)

1971 (Continued)

May (date unspecified) - Holloman Air Force Base. One or more UFOs landed, aliens disembarked and communicated with US military personnel for hours or days. This is the incident depicted as sort-of-hypothetical by Robert Emenegger in his book UFOs PAST PRESENT & FUTURE and by Emenegger and Alan Sandler in their films "UFOs Past Present & Future" and "UFOs: It Has Begun". The latter is actually a revised version of the former, with the addition of Jacques Vallee-narrated footage dealing with live-stock mutilations. Sandler Institutional Films, Inc. received much assistance and cooperation from the US Air Force. Dr. David Jacobs, in his book (55), refers to a rumor that the CIA supported the film(s) in some fashion. A later rumor indicated the addition of mutilation material in the revised film may have been at the behest of the CIA or Air Force.

Possibly relevant to this is the "Sigma/Snowbird Document" which has received wide circulation and prompted much discussion within the ufological community. See CRUX #2 for more coverage of this document. This one page appears now to have been part of an "Executive Briefing" on "Project Aquarius" prepared by "MJ12" or "Majestic 12", the US National Security Council Special Studies Project established under President Harry Truman. UFO researcher William L. Moore brought the briefing paper to the attention of ufologists. Along with fellow researchers Stanton Friedman and Jaime Shandera, Moore released a series of documents in mid-1987 which purport to go into considerably more detail concerning the United States' government's involvement in investigating UFOs and occupants retrieved from crash sites. While there is much optimism over the doors that Moore, Friedman and Shandera may be opening, there also remains much controversy over the authenticity of the released documents. More comments on this provocative situation are for another time and space.

The "Sigma/Snowbird" document alleges that aliens landed & communicated with an Air Force intelligence officer in the desert of New Mexico on April 25, 1964, intriguingly sandwiched between the Socorro/Zamora incident of late on the 24th and the La Madera landing of early on the 26th. Some sources feel Emenegger may be mistaken, that the incident he learned about is the one on 4-25-64. He remains adamant, however, regarding "his" date of May 1971. If so, it obvious means that two separate landing/communication events occurred. More on May 1971 in an upcoming edition of CRUX. (54,55)

1972

April 18 (4:00 AM) - across state. A TV newscast reported that 19 UFOs were detected on radar heading across the Mexican border into New Mexico. The explanation given was a radar malfunction due to storms. (56)

November 19 - Albuquerque. Seven yellow lights were seen by a college professor and other witnesses. (27)

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1974

May 17 (10:10 PM) - near Chilili. Electronic scanning instruments at Kirtland AFB detected a tremendous burst of energy in the upper atmosphere; instruments briefly went off the scale. A trajectory was determined and a team was dispatched to the assumed impact area, in the Manzano Mts. SW of Chilili. A circular metallic object, 60 ft. in diameter, was "dismantled" and moved to a hanger at Kirtland AFB. (57)

September (no date), daylight - location unknown. Three witnesses in New Mexico watched as a farmer in his pickup truck was levitated 500 feet into a huge disc-shaped object. A civilian investigator, a radio newsman, was supposedly pursuing the case. (58)

November 30 (2:00 AM & after) - Roswell area. A vacationing couple in an automobile had just left the lights of Roswell behind when they spotted what they thought was a huge oil rig off the road. However, it moved along the highway for 60 miles, bouncing like a "sing-along" ball. It appeared to be a column of very white lights with an occasional red light at the base. (48)

1975

January 6 (Monday, 10:30 PM) - few miles south of Lordsburg. Three witnesses were sitting in a car on a lonely road, listening to a CB radio. Static was heard on the radio as lights were seen; a blue-white light lit up the ground beside the car, which would not start although the CB radio continued to function. The observers saw a "beautiful...fabulous blue" glowing light in an uninhabited area behind a hill. ((48)

August 13 - near Alamogordo & Holloman AFB. USAF Sgt. Charles L. Moody was sitting on his car watching a meteor shower. A craft descended; aliens approached Moody as he jumped in his car; it wouldn't start. Moody knocked down one alien with his car door and punched another in the face before he passed out & was apparently abducted. An intriguing case, setting the stage for the Travis Walton abduction in Arizona in November. (59,60)

Autumn - Nara Visa area. During a period in which livestock mutilations were reported in NE New Mexico, area residents had been frequently reporting unidentified helicopters and other strange meandering nocturnal lights. One night when such UFOs were being seen, a pilot & 3 friends took to the air in a small plane in an effort to close in on the lights. Their efforts were coordinated with ground observers, who could see both the plane and the UFOs. Despite the frustrated attempts of the ground personnel, the persons in the plane were never able to spot the UFOs during a 2-hour air foray. Between October 30 and November 13, at least 30 unidentified helicopter and/or UFO sightings occurred in Union & Quay Counties, and four livestock mutilations were reported. The Federal Aviation Administration publicly announced an investigation into the unknown aircraft reports. They later denied any knowledge of the probe. (61,62)

1976

January 21 - Cannon Air Force Base. Air Force security police reported 2 gold or silver UFOs "near the flight line" at Cannon AFB. The objects had a blue light on top, a red light on the bottom and a "hole" in the middle. (63)

Late January - Clovis area. As the USA Bicentennial Year got underway, much nationwide publicity was directed at red, white & blue lights over Clovis and Cannon Air Force Base. Early on Jan. 21, Clovis policeman Randy Johnson reported 23 objects visible simultaneously. Lights seen were arrayed in various formations; a newsman photographed a hot-dog-like "something" in the sky. The genuineness of the phenomena was questioned by several UFO groups & investigators, including APRO, a Los Alamos group, and Texans Tommy Roy Blann and Ray Stanford. (64, 65, 66, many others)

May 26 - Albuquerque. A wife, husband and teen-age son vanished after this date. The woman claimed to have established contact with an alien ufonaut in the Sandia Mts. She told her mother she expected the family would disappear. (58)

November - over Kirtland Air Force Base. Air National Guard Captain Randolph B. Jenkins veered to avoid a brilliant circular object which came up behind him as he flew in an A-7 Corsair jet fighter. Jenkins felt he was contacted telepathically by the UFO occupants and believed he was briefly "shown" a close view of parts of the UFO. (67, 68)

November 17/18 - between Ocate & Rayado. Texan E. A. Masterson, on hunting trip, wandered far from camp and became lost as night fell. He was treated to an all-night UFO show, with objects landing, subsequent ground activity and overflights low over Masterson. (69)

December 2 (2:30 AM) - Interstate 40, near Albuquerque. Truck driver Jose Dohnert was "paced" by a bright orange light, low to the ground. (70)

---NOTE--- In addition to the occurrences in NE New Mexico in late 1975, there have been other instances of apparent juxtaposition between UFO activity & livestock mutilations in the state. Included are landing-trace reports from mutilation sites in June 1976 & April 1978, both in Rio Arriba County. These incidents are covered in STIGMATA.

1978

May 13 - Alamogordo. Numerous witnesses reported a red object moving slowly across the sky, accelerating and finally descending to the ground outside the city. A brush fire was discovered in the immediate area. Holoman AFB dispatched a helicopter to the area to assure that there was not "any hazard to aircraft or the civilian populace". The brush fire appeared to be in a 10-ft. oval area. (71, 72)

July 3 - Taos. Several citizens saw a UFO & found powder-and-chip residue

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1978 (Continued)

on a pickup truck which had been beneath the orange disc "the size of two cars" shrouded in "uncommon light". A high proportion of magnesium and, especially, potassium was found in the samples. Near Dulce on July 5, ultraviolet light disclosed a substance on several cattle belonging to a mutilation-plagued rancher, the premise being that some cattle may have been "marked" for future mutilation. Analysis of the substance on the cattle indicated a high proportion of magnesium and, again, potassium. It was felt that the Taos sample, at least, may have been organic in origin. The findings were provocative but (like the incision-by-cellular-separation in a Colorado case, discussed in STIGMATA #13) ultimately inconclusive without follow-up and repetition. (73,74)

October 6 (3:00 AM) - US Hwy.87, between Capulin and Des Moines. Two men were both "fascinated and upset" upon watching a UFO pass over their car. The object was described as metallic and octagonal and several times larger than the moon. (75)

November 17 (8:45 PM) - near Ojo Caliente. Three hunters reported a cigar-shaped object flew over their campsite at an altitude of about 200 yards. The object was illuminated by bright orange lights. (76)

November 30 - south of Albuquerque on Hwy.47. State Police said a witness reported an "intensely bright" light which increased in intensity to a green flash followed by "fireballs", "red streamers" and a green and red flash. (77)

Early December - Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation. Through binoculars, guide Joe Lucero watched a yellow or orange cigar-shaped object as it flew, then hovered over Horse Lake. (78)

A Saturday in December - east of Roswell. Two law officers saw what appeared to be a fire on a hillside across the Pecos River. Suddenly, they noticed the "fire" was ascending slowly. Through binoculars, one man described a wagon-wheel shape with sparks emanating spoke-like from it. Witnesses at a truck stop saw it, as well. State Police asked Cannon Air Force Base to investigate but the base declined to do so. (79)

December - Raton police reported there had been several UFO sightings in that area over the preceding months, with several sightings by "graveyard shift" law officers. (77)

1979

February 22 (6:00 PM) - near Lordsburg. Salesman Bill Tufts watched a blue light break into pieces in the sky. Looking to his right, he saw a silver cigar-shaped object traveling "straight up" at a "tremendous" rate of speed, following a 90-degree turn. (80)

March 25 (Sunday) - Taos. A deputy sheriff and friend watched a rainbow-colored object "about the size of a car" fly across the sky. The object appeared to descend to the ground, with a glow emitting from that area. No follow-up, as far as is known. (81)

1979 (Continued)

July 3 - a few miles NW of Clayton. Dogs on a ranch were noticed barking around midnight. The next morning a seeming "landing circle" was found 150 feet from the ranch house. A calf, blind in one eye, normally walked in "circles"; as it was watched it neared the "landing circle" and suddenly veered away. The rancher "called in the Army" and someone came out and took samples. Three months and six months earlier, residents of the ranch house noted strange lights shining into the house from outside. Recent anecdotal testimony indicates some residents of the area between Clayton and Raton have adopted an almost complacent attitude toward UFOs, because of the frequency of sightings. (82)

September 12, 13 - Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation. Feast Days attendees at Stone Lake observed UFOs at 9:30 PM each night. On the 12th, 2 fish and game officers were driving without lights while watching for poachers when their vehicle was "spotlighted" by a yellow light from above. Other area residents reported what seemed to be a helicopter with no lights and no sound. (83)

1980

February 16 (6:18 PM) - SW of Espanola. State Police were informed of a bright yellow light "with a red ball which rotated clockwise and counter-clockwise and moved up and down". (84)

May, first week - Colfax County. Perhaps one of the more intriguing and potentially important (and virtually unknown) episodes in ufology - the abduction of a mother and 6-year-old son who "happened" to witness the abduction (and later mutilation) of a calf by ufonauts. Sometimes termed the "Cimarron Case", though it is uncertain just how close the incident occurred to that town. We implore those directly involved in the investigation to come forth with a public account of this pertinent event. (85)

August 8, 9 - Kirtland Air Force Base. Security personnel observed a UFO over a Department of Defense Restricted Test Range in the Coyote Canyon area of Kirtland AFB. A disc-shaped object landed in the restricted area. The test range was used by the Air Force Weapons Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratory, the Department of Energy and the Defense Nuclear Agency - a provocative incident wherein a totally unidentified object overflowed and landed at one of the nation's most sensitive military facilities. (63,86)

1981

March (11:00 PM) - Interstate 25, near Bernalillo, driving south toward Albuquerque. Two observers watched a huge, brightly-lit object near the crest of the Sandia Mts., just NE of Albuquerque. As seen through binoculars, smaller red and white lights came out of the larger object. The object, observed for ten minutes, seemed to be alternately gently rising and lowering. (87)

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1981 (Continued)

September - US Hwy. 285, a few miles south of Artesia. Motorist Thomas Hundley was about to drive into a strange patch of ground fog when he noticed a glowing light in the "fog" (not headlights). The "fog" suddenly ascended with a "whoosh" and the witness saw a sharp, non-diffuse red light in the sky. (88)

1982

May - In weeks preceding a cattle mutilation near Dulce, residents reported "The Light", most often reported as orange, but also white and blue. Many inhabitants of the area associated the lights with the occurrence of livestock mutilations in the area. (89)

December 20 - Roswell. A bright football-shaped object, leaving a contrail, was reported in the night sky. An explosion of undetermined origin was heard in the area that night. (90)

1983

June 17/18 - Dulce. "The Light" is reported again, around the time of another livestock mutilation in the area. (87)

1984

April 24 - Alcalde, north of Espanola. Eight witnesses observed a football-shaped UFO in the eastern sky. Through binoculars, the object turned slowly so the observer could see all sides. A small red light detached from the larger object and followed it over the Truchas Peaks. (91)

July 11 (Wed.) - Espanola. Two young men watched a "heavily lighted" object fly slowly, hover, move again and vanish instantly. The same or a similar object re-appeared two minutes later, then vanished again. (92)

September 5-8 - Burnham area, on Navajo Indian Reservation. Area residents reported several UFOs, including 6 objects with "no shape" passing over about 5 minutes apart, the last directing a searchlight to the ground. Authorities felt the witness may have seen B-52 bombers from Kirtland Air Force Base, although the witness maintained the objects, with white, red and green lights, did not look like conventional aircraft. (93)

Note: We omitted from our chronology the "Gallup Incident" and attendant events of January 1983, which is discussed extensively in CRUX No. 1. In an upcoming edition of CRUX, we will take a closer look at some of the more important New Mexico UFO events. For our New Mexico UFO chronology, we would like to acknowledge the following for their contributions: Tommy R. Blann, James R. Bryce, James Deck, Lucius Farish, Peter Gersten, Linda M. Howe, David M. Jacobs, Ph.D., Christian P. Lambricht, Thomas A. LeVesque, Clifford E. Stone, Richard Thompson, Tracy Torme.

In the next edition of CRUX, we will continue our exploration of anomalous occurrences in New Mexico, where "they don't call it the Land of Enchantment for nothing".

NOTICE: Due to space limitations (as opposed to space-time limitations; although...who knows?...that may just as well be involved, too) we are omitting from this edition the list of references for our catalog of New Mexico UFO reports. We will provide these 93 references in a separate listing to any readers who send us a stamped (22¢), self-addressed envelope.

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

Because of, again, space limitations, we will not do this in every issue, but we wanted to provide readers with a brief list of periodicals, with what we assume are current addresses. We urge anyone who thinks they may find something of interest in these publications to write and ask for either a sample copy or a current subscription form or price list. We apologize in advance if we've left anyone out.

AASC NEWSLETTER; Association for the Anthropological Study of Consciousness; P.O. Box 4032; Irvine, CA 92716-4032..... Aerial Phenomenon Clipping & Information Center; P.O. Box 9073; Cleveland, Ohio 44137..... APPLIED PSI; Center For Applied Intuition; 2046 Clement St.; San Francisco, CA 94121..... APRO BULLETIN; Aerial Phenomena Research Organization; 3597 W. Grape Dr.; Tucson, AZ 85741..... ARTIFEX; Archaeus Project; 629 Twelfth Ave., SE; Minneapolis, MN 55414..... AS UFONOTAS; c/o Jean Alencar; Caixa Postal 689; 60.000 Fortaleza; Ceara; Brasil (in Portuguese)..... BIG-FOOT CO-OP; 14602 Montevideo Drive; Whittier, CA 90605..... CALIFORNIA UFO; 1800 S. ROBERTSON BLVD., Suite 335; Los Angeles, CA 90035..... COME-ALL-YE (Folklore, American Studies, Social History & Popular Culture); Legacy Books; P.O. Box 494; Hatboro, PA 19040..... CREATURE CHRONICLES; c/o Ron Schaffner; P.O. Box 44062; Cincinnati, Ohio 45244..... CRITIQUE; A Journal of Conspiracies & Metaphysics; P.O. Box 11368; Santa Rosa, CA 95406..... FLYING SAUCER REVIEW; FSR Publications, Ltd.; Snodland; Kent ME6 5HJ; England..... FOCUS; Fair Witness Project, Inc.; 4219 W. Olive St.; Burbank, CA 91505..... FOOTSTEPS; c/o Pathways; P.O. Box 534 Derby, Kansas 67037..... FORTEAN TIMES; 96 Mansfield Rd.; London NW8 2HX; England..... FOR YOUR EYES ONLY; P.O. Box 632; Sauk City, Wisconsin 53583..... THE GATE; P.O. Box 43518; Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143..... THE HOLLOW HASSLE; 18720 Amar Rd., #369; Walnut, CA 91789..... JOURNAL OF THE FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER; P.O. Box 94627; Lincoln, Nebraska 68509..... THE JOURNAL OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH; P.O. Box 3901; Thousand Oaks, CA 91359..... JOURNAL OF VAMPIROLOGY; P.O. Box 881631; San Francisco, CA 94188..... JUST CAUSE, incl. CAUS BULLETIN (Citizens Against UFO Secrecy); P.O. Box 218; Coventry, Connecticut 06238..... LIGHT-NET PROSPERITY NEWSLETTER; c/o Pat O'Connell; 207 Birch St., SE; Topeka, Kansas 66609-1841..... THE LLEWELLYN NEW TIMES; Llewellyn Publications; P.O. Box 64383; St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0383..... THE MISSING LINK; UFO Contact Center International; P.O. Box 46404; Seattle, Washington 98146-0404..... MUFON UFO JOURNAL; Mutual UFO Network, Inc.; 103 Oldtowne Road; Seguin, Texas 78155-4099..... MUTUAL UFO NETWORK, INC. NEWSLETTER; Mass.MUFON; c/o James Melesciuc; 43 Harrison St.; Reading, Massachusetts 01867..... THE NETWORK NEWS (The Runaway Suicide Prevention Network Newsletter; Loren Coleman, Editor); HSDI; University of Southern Maine; 96 Falmouth St.; Portland, Maine 04103..... PARA-UFOLOGY FORUM; c/o Brent Raynes; 326 Haggard St.; Waynesboro, Tennessee 38485..... PASA DATA EXCHANGE; The Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained; 6 Oakhill Ave.; Greensburg, PA 15601..... SAUCER SMEAR; P.O. Box 1709; Key West, FL 33041 (available to non-subscribers only)..... UFO-EXPRESS; Via Antonio Veneziano, 120; 90138 Palermo; Sicily; Italy ... (continued).....

UFO INFORMATION; Japan Space Phenomena Society; c/o Shin-ichiro Namiki; 5-2 Kamiyama-Cho; Shibuya-ku; Tokyo, Japan Zip 150 (in English)..... UFOLOGIA; c/o CPDV; Caixa Postal 2182; Rua das Garcas, 67; 79.100 Campo Grande; MS; Brasil.....UFO NEWS-CLIPPING SERVICE; Route 1, Box 220; Plumerville, Arkansas 72127.....UFO NEWS-FLASH; c/o Massimo Greco; P.O. Box 29; I-25121 Brescia; Italy.....UFO POTPOURRI; c/o John F. Schuessler; P.O. Box 58485; Houston, TX 77258-8485.....BOOK AND PERIODICAL MERCHANTS: For an occasional but extensive list of available books and periodicals on UFO, Fortean & paranormal topics, contact Lucius Farish of the UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE at the address given above.....Arcturus Book Service; P.O. Box 2213; Scotia, New York 12302 (Bob Girard has been providing an absolutely essential service with his catalogs of paranormal books and publications, old & new. His business may be undergoing some changes, though. Contact him to see in what direction he's heading).....Tom Davis Books; P.O. Box 1107; Aptos, CA 95001-1107 (some Fortean, but mostly the primary source for conspiracy-related books).....For a valuable annually-updated list of UFO Publications and organizations, write: George D. Fawcett; 602 Battleground Rd.; Lincolnton, NC 28092 (Send 39¢ SASE plus \$2.00 for postage & handling).

SOME BOOKS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

INTRUDERS by Budd Hopkins. The apparent genetic experimentation and manipulation of (at least) some members of the human species by extraterrestrials. Sobering ramifications, whatever is really occurring. Random House; 1987. Deserves to be "right up there" with...

COMMUNION by Whitley Strieber. Blockbuster; months on the best-seller lists. A very personal narrative and assessment of apparent experiences with abduction-crazed extraterrestrials. Has plucked a massive chord still resonating on the fretboard of American consciousness (under whose orchestration?). Hopkins and Strieber should be working in concert (speaking of orchestration) as they were early on in Strieber's account. This is all too big for the personal rift that has developed between them over some very, very human bush-league shenanigans. Morrow/Beach Tree; 1987.

LIGHT YEARS by Gary Kinder. Details the only slightly controversial claims of Swiss UFO contactee Eduard "Billy" Meier. LIGHT YEARS, INTRUDERS and COMMUNION all appear to be headed toward film adaptations, according to VARIETY. Strieber is writing the screenplay for COMMUNION, which is to be co-produced and directed by Philippe Mora.

THE ULTIMATE EVIL by Maury Terry. A chilling, uncomfortable, extraordinary, essential expose of apparent links between the Son of Sam killings, the Charles Manson "family" and the Process Church of the Final Judgement (not to be confused with the Rainbow Girls). Dolphin/Doubleday; 1987.

THE MAYAN FACTOR by Jose Arguelles. What will occur during the "collective synchronization" of the "Harmonic Convergence" of August 16-17, 1987 (You'll know by the time you read this)? This is foretold by the Mayan Calendar, which ends in 2012 A.D. (or 2011, according to your authority). Deranged vision or feathered-serpent myth-become-reality? This is either a very big deal or a totally inconsequential scenario. Bear & Company; P.O. Drawer 2860; Santa Fe, NM 87504. 1987.

THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY by Jeffrey T. Richelson. A comprehensive and extremely useful review by the American University professor/author. Includes a long list of those crazed governmental acronyms and their meanings. Ballinger. 1985. (Tom Davis Books).

ONE MORE BOOK WE WANTED TO MENTION...In light of the New Mexico material we're covering in this and the next issue....UFO CRASH AT AZTEC by William Steinman & Wendelle C. Stevens - concerning Steinman's research into a UFO crash near Aztec, NM on May 25, 1948, and the recovery from the scene of 16 alien bodies. The book's release date is 9/1/87, available from America West Distributors; P.O. Box K; Boulder, CO 80306-000K.

A STRANGE HARVEST, the classic Emmy-award-winning documentary film about the animal mutilation mystery, is now available on videotape. Also available is a publication including the original A STRANGE HARVEST transcript with several updates from 1980 to 1987. For information about ordering, contact: Linda Moulton Howe; Linda Howe Productions; 3208 East Fremont Drive; Littleton, Colorado 80122; Ph. (303) 694-9749.

Texan Jim Crocker has been investigating, among other things, "ghost lights", including the renowned Marfa Lights. He has photographed those West Texas lights and is offering still photos up to 8 x 10" for sale to interested parties. Contact him at: James Crocker; 9552 Brewster; Dallas, Texas 75227; Ph. (214) 381-7430.

NOT-SO-LITE UFOLOGY

In CRUX #2, we revealed a letter received by a Texas researcher (Christian P. Lambricht, it can now be revealed) from the National Security Agency, in response to a Freedom of Information Act request regarding the infamous Project Aquarius. The NSA informed Lambricht that had such documentation but it could not be released as it could cause "exceptionally grave damage to the national security".

New Mexico researcher Clifford E. Stone had also been seeking information on Project Aquarius and he enlisted the aid of U.S. Senators John Glenn and Pete V. Domenici. The NSA sent an identical letter of reply to both Glenn and Domenici, in which the agency claimed no knowledge of Projects Sigma & Snowbird (see CRUX #2). Their comments regarding "Aquarius" are reproduced here:

...project Aquarius has been the subject of numerous FOIA requests. Apparently there is or was an Air Force project by that name which dealt with UFOs. Coincidentally, there is also an NSA project by that name. The NSA project does not deal with UFOs. We believe that the confusion on this issue results from an FOIA request submitted by another person with interest in UFOs, Mr. Christian Lambricht. Mr. Lambricht requested all information on the NSA project Aquarius, apparently believing that the project pertains to UFOs. We advised Mr. Lambricht that our project does not deal with UFOs. He then requested records revealing the "goal" of Aquarius, and we withheld the document because it is classified. We have reason to believe that our final response to Mr. Lambricht, denying him access to the records, has been disseminated within a circle of those interested in UFOs and that subsequently a misunderstanding has developed regarding NSA, Aquarius and UFOs.

New York attorney and CAUS President Peter Gersten was told by a NSA representative on the phone that, because of all the inquiries referring to Aquarius as a UFO project, the NSA merely assumed that the Air Force version of Aquarius dealt with UFOs.

ZOODDITIES

News from the lake-monster front: University of Alberta professor Jim Butler has, with colleagues, been investigating reports of creatures in Saddle Lake & Christina Lake in remote northern Alberta. The beast in the latter lake is said to be covered with hair or fur..... Now and then accounts re-surface of unknown fauna in Bear Lake, on the Idaho/Utah border and in the well-known Lake Tahoe, astride the California/Nevada line..... In spring 1987 it was announced that an investigative group is assessing reports of an unknown creature in 164-sq.-mile Lake Storsjon in northern Sweden. Reports from some of the 400 witnesses are said to go back 350 years..... Efforts continue to acquire proof of the existence of the "Mokele M'bembe", a Congolese creature twice the size of an elephant, thought by some to be a remnant from the Age of Dinosaurs. A recent British expedition could not find the creature but did accumulate more eyewitness accounts. In 1988, Chicago biologist Roy Mackal will return to Africa for his third attempt to locate Mokele M'bembe. Another member of Mackal's crew, Albuquerque journalist Jerry Sinkovec, says the six-million-dollar expedition will last 90 days and will be documented on film and video tape..... It was reported in THE ATLANTIC magazine (July 1987) that the editors of THE AMERICAN HERITAGE DICTIONARY were considering sanctioning use of the word "dracontologist" to describe the likes of Roy Mackal (who has also investigated Loch Ness extensively). A "dracontologist" would be described as "one who studies the possibility of the existence of giant lake-dwelling creatures".

There have been numerous persistent reports of late of "black panthers" and "mystery cats" from Pennsylvania to Arkansas to Michigan to Illinois to New Jersey - and we have reports from many other areas over the past few years. Eventually, we hope to have room to address the matter in an edition of CRUX.

"The universe vibrates to a Bo Diddley beat". (Pat MacDonald of Timbuk 3, quoted in ROLLING STONE, 11-6-86)

World scientists disagree still on the cause of the death of over 1700 people in the African nation of Cameroon in August 1986. The deaths of people and animals was attributed to a cloud of toxic gases emanating from the volcanic Lake Nios ("Why?" is the matter in dispute). A moderate-length Associated Press article on the incident appeared in the 1st edition of the KANSAS CITY STAR of 8-26-86. The 2nd edition that day included the identical AP story but with the omission of one paragraph:

The French news agency Agence-France Presse quoted the Rev. Fred Tern Horn, a Catholic missionary, as saying, "It was as if a neutron bomb had exploded, destroying nothing but killing all life. In the first village we went through, we saw men, women and animals stretched out dead on the ground, sometimes in front of their huts or in their beds, sometimes on the path.

Part of Rev. Tern Horn's comments appeared in TIME & NEWSWEEK (9-8-86).

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